

Straight From Washington—

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(United States Senator, Ohio)

STATINTL

WASHINGTON—Two of our alphabetical agencies—ICA and CIA, International Cooperation Administration and Central Intelligence Agency—will be given good, sharp looks, and the huge appropriations their officials are seeking are likely to be cut drastically.

The ICA is a particularly expensive and ineffective organization in many particulars.

For example, shocked by the tremendous earthquake catastrophe afflicting Chile, Congress appropriated millions of dollars of taxpayers' money for relief to our good neighbor to the south.

President Eisenhower and Congress meant well. It was a fine gesture of generosity to neighbors in distress.

Yet, high-salaried ICA officials grossly mismanaged distribution of the funds, exercised terribly poor judgment, and instead of gratitude and good will, the people of this nation are the recipients of resentment and disgust from the common people of Chile to high government officials.

In Guatemala and other countries, minor officials and secretaries of ICA enjoy high salaries, and most are furnished automobiles. This is in contrast to the more modest treatment of diplomatic personnel elsewhere in South and Central America.

Most ICA employees "never had it so good." The writer intends to work and vote for reduced appropriations for this outfit.

'GOOFING' AGENCY—The CIA is our international spy agency. It is essential America have such organization. Its intelligence should be accurate.

Citizens have reason to believe this is one of the most expensive and yet one of the weakest links in our national defense.

In the Korean war, General MacArthur announced complete victory in North Korea and predicted his soldiers would be home by Christmas. This was based on CIA intelligence.

On the following day, 200,000 Chinese "volunteers" crossed the Yalu, throwing back our inadequate forces.

The CIA again "bluffed" 24 hours before Batista fled Cuba when its report was that he held supremacy over a small group of starving

Castro-led guerrillas.

CIA's handling of the U.S. mischance was a tragedy of errors, and just recently in advising and predicting success of the abortive invasion of freedom fighters against Castro, it thoroughly underestimated the power and strength of the dictator.

Good judgment calls for the President and Congress to make sweeping changes in this agency from the top down.

It is now evident that Fidel Castro has the support of the rank and file people in that unfortunate country—also, the support of most of the people and government officials of Latin American republics.

The Central Intelligence Agency, headed by Allen Dulles, has an unimpressive record.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE —

The minimum wage bill passed by the Senate gave coverage to laundry and dry cleaning workers for the first time.

Some opponents of the bill contended it changed the concept of interstate commerce. Among these was Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia. After the bill was passed, he said in all good humor:

"Every member of every household will now have the opportunity to feel that he is truly a citizen of this republic. He can have the thrill of having affected the flow of commerce among the great states of the Union merely by sending the old man's shirt out to be washed at the laundry."